

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 093341  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: NEA:EGABINGTON

APPROVED BY: NEA:EGABINGTON

S/S-MR REDDY

-----260235Z 117593 /70

O 260138Z APR 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 093341

NODIS

STADIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 6936 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 25 APR

QTE

S E C R E T CAIRO 6936

NODIS

STADIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ASEC US EG LY

SUBJ: REPLY TO FAHMY ON LIBYA

REF: STATE 087361

1. SINCE I DID NOT HAVE A CHANCE TO SPEAK TO FAHMY AT  
OUR MEETING OF LAST SATURDAY ABOUT NOT LEAKING NEWS OF  
THE LIBYAN THREAT AGAINST ME, I DID SO TODAY. I STRESSED  
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WE HAD GIVEN FAHMY INFO ABOUT THE THREAT IN CONFIDENCE AND  
THAT WE EXPECTED OUR CONFIDENCE TO BE RESPECTED.  
I POINTED OUT DEPT'S OVERRIDING CONSIDERATION IS MY  
SAFETY AND ITS CONCERN THAT DISCLOSURE BY EGYPTIANS  
MIGHT LEAD TO IRRATIONAL ACTION BY QADHAFI.

2. FAHMY RESPONDED THAT GOE HAD NOT RPT NOT LEAKED

ANY NEWS OF THE THREAT. HE COULD NOT RPT NOT AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS PROPRIETARY INFORMATION AND GOE CONSIDERS ITSELF AT LIBERTY TO USE IT AS NEEDED. ALTHOUGH WE HAD PROVIDED INITIAL INFORMATION, OUR SOURCE HAD ALSO SPILLED THE BEANS TO EGYPTIANS ON THAT THREAT AS WELL AS ON OTHERS THE LIBYANS ARE CONTEMPLATING. WE HAD REQUESTED GOE TO TAKE SOURCE, AND EGYPTIANS ARE NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR HIM. DISPUTING OUR VIEW THAT DISCLOSURE MIGHT JEOPARDIZE MY SAFETY, HE CLAIMED THAT HE HAD TOLD PRESIDENT CARTER THAT, IN HIS VIEW AND BASED ON EGYPTIAN KNOWLEDGE OF QADHAFI, DISCLOSURE IS THE BEST DETERRENT. WHAT WE DO ABOUT DISCLOSURE IS OUR BUSINESS, FAHMY SAID, BUT GOE MUST ACT IN ACCORDANCE ITS BEST INTERESTS.

3. THIS PROMPTED HIM TO ASK IF I HAD SEEN STORY IN LATEST ISSUE OF OCTOBER (CAIRO 6887). I TOLD HIM I HAD AND EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT SUCH A STORY HAD BEEN LEAKED. FAHMY POINTEDLY NOTED IT HAD MADE NO REFERENCE TO ME AND SAID THIS HAD BEEN OMITTED OUT OF RESPECT FOR OUR VIEWS. HOWEVER, GOE HAD TO PROTECT ITSELF. LIBYAN CONCEPT SEEMED TO BE TO CREATE ANOTHER LAVON AFFAIR SO THAT EGYPTIANS COULD BE BLAMED IF ANYTHING HAPPENED IN CAIRO OR ELSEWHERE. STORY HAD BEEN LEAKED TO OCTOBER MAGAZINE IN ORDER TO PRE-EMPT LIBYANS FROM EXPLOITING ANY SUCH RUSE. IN CONTEST WITH "MADMAN QADHAFI", GOE HAD TO ACT ON A TIMELY BASIS TO PREVENT LIBYAN EFFORT BLAME IT FOR INCIDENTS.

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4. FAHMY THEN WENT INTO LONG RECITAL ABOUT HOW HE COULDN'T UNDERSTAND OUR POLICY TOWARD QADHAFI, WHO, HE CLAIMED, IS RECOGNIZED BY ALL TO BE ACTIVELY WORKING TO PREVENT ME PEACE PROCESS. I TOLD HIM THAT WE ARE UNDER NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT QADHAFI, BUT WOULD HANDLE HIM IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR ESTIMATE OF WHAT OUR INTERESTS REQUIRE. I AGAIN STRESSED THAT, WHILE WE MIGHT HAVE A DIFFERENCE ON HOW TO DEAL WITH QADHAFI, WE DID NOT WANT HIM TO REVEAL THE DETAILS OF THE THREAT AGAINST ME.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH FAHMY GAVE NO ASSURANCE ON THIS SCORE, I KNOW THAT HE GOT THE POINT. WE WILL HAVE TO EXPECT, HOWEVER, THAT HE MAY USE THE KNOWLEDGE THE EGYPTIANS ACQUIRED FROM US AND DIRECTLY FROM OUR SOURCE IN A MORE GENERAL WAY, AS HE DID WITH THE OCTOBER STORY, IN THE CURRENCY EGYPTIAN/LIBYAN DISPUTE.

6. DEPT MAY WISH REPEAT TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI FOR INTS INFO.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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